

REMARKS

Claims 4 and 5 are currently pending in the present application. Both claims are in independent form.

Specifically referring to the Office Action, the previous holding that priority of the present application was improper has been withdrawn. The Office Action specifically recommends amending the Cross-Reference Section. In response thereto and pursuant to the Office Action's recommendation, the Cross-Reference Section has been amended.

The specification has been objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action holds that the structure set forth in claim 4 was not disclosed in the specification. However, the structure set forth in claim 4 is disclosed in Figure 3 of the specification. More specifically, formula 31 sets forth the specific structure. Claim 4 has been amended to specifically set forth formula 31 of Figure 3. Accordingly, reconsideration of the objection is respectfully requested.

According to the Office Action, the amendments made to the specification set forth in the Preliminary Amendment filed April 23, 2002, have been objected to because there is no support for the amendments. In response thereto, the specification has been amended to set forth the structure depicted in Figure 2. Specifically, the integer has been amended to be "4" instead of "3." Support for the amendment is shown in the various examples and in particular in Figure 2 (Formula 22), wherein the branching includes the arms in each of the shown compounds. As a result, reconsideration of the objection is respectfully requested.

The specification has been objected to with regard to the hand-drawn formulas set forth therein. In response thereto, pages 5 and 6 of the specification have been amended in accordance with suggestions set forth in the Office Action. Support for the formulas is found in the originally filed specification and the figures. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In addition to the above amendments, amendments have been made to the drawings. Enclosed herewith are replacement drawings for Figures 3 and 6. Both

"REPLACEMENT SHEETS" and "MARKED-UP DRAWINGS" are included herewith. Please note that the replacement drawings are amending typographical errors set forth in the drawings.

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. According to the Office Action, there is insufficient guidance as to how to make and use the chemical structure in the method of making dendrimer frameworks as set forth in Claim 4. In response thereto, the structure, which is an amide connection, has been well-known to those of skill in the art prior to the priority claimed in the present application. The first example of a coupling of an acid (COOH) via DCC (dicyclohexylcarbodiimide) with an amine (CNH₂) to give an amide (CNO) was set forth in Sheenan, J.C., Hess, G.P., J.A.m. Chem. Soc., 1955,77, 1067. Further, for a review of the article, please see Bodansky and Bodansky, "The Practice of Peptide Synthesis," Springer, New York, 1984. Since this is well-known to those of skill in the art at the time the invention was made, the presently claimed invention does not lack enablement. In accordance with the Office Action's suggestions, copies of the above references are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration. As a result, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. In response thereto, these claims have been amended to correctly set forth the formulas supported by the specification. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 5 have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite for various reasons. In response thereto, these claims have been amended and reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment places the application in condition for allowance as it removes all remaining issues in dispute. Specifically, the amendment follows suggestions set forth in the Office Action and clarifies the present invention. As a result, no remaining issues are in dispute. Since there is no prior art cited against any of these claims, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. It is also respectfully submitted that

the present amendment places the application in condition for appeal. The claims have not been made broader in scope, thereby requiring no further searching nor raise any new issues. In fact, all claims now include limitations of previously pending claims and were therefore previously searched.

It is respectfully requested that the present amendment be entered in order to place the application in condition for allowance or at least in better condition for appeal. The application is placed in condition for allowance as it addresses and resolves each and every issue that remains pending. The claims have also been amended to clearly distinguish them over the prior art. The application is made at least in better condition for appeal as the amendment removes any issues thereby simplifying the issues on appeal. That is, each and every rejection has been overcome. Hence, it is respectfully requested that the amendment be entered.

In summary, the present application is now in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully requested. If any remaining issues exist, Applicants respectfully request to be contacted by telephone at (248) 539-5050.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 11-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

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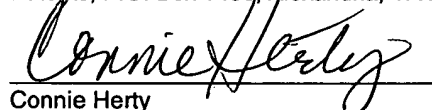
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Connie Herty

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the drawings for figures 3 and 6 (identified as "MARKED-UP DRAWINGS") with the drawings attached hereto (identified as 'REPLACEMENT SHEETS').

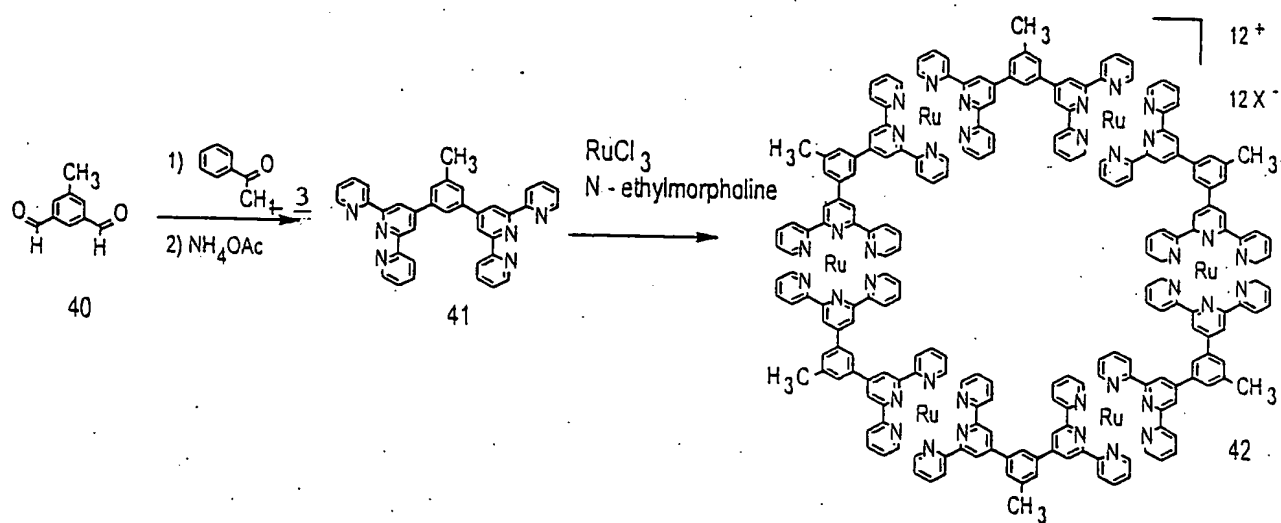
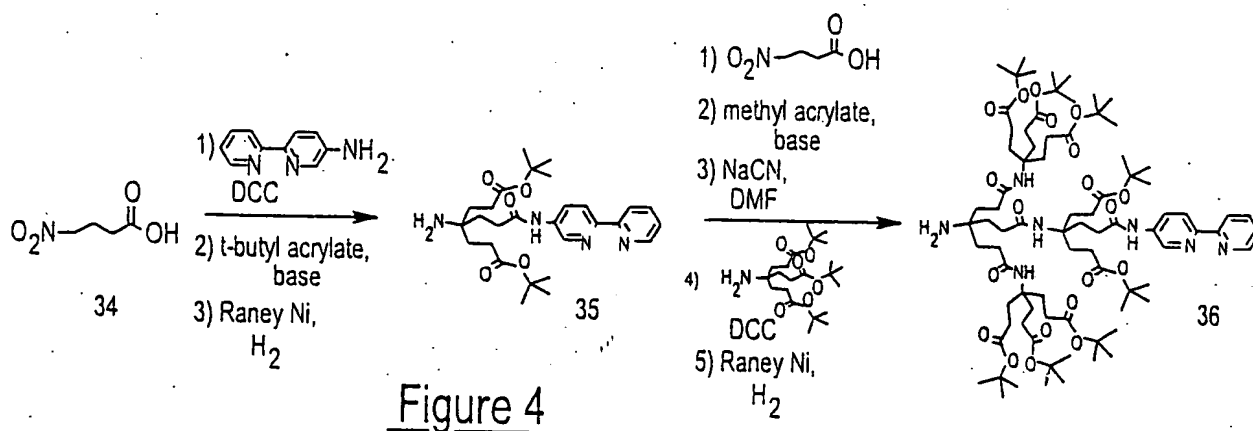


Figure 3

